



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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GROUP 2731

In re

U.S. application of:

Takenori IDEHARA

For:

INPUT-OUTPUT APPARATUS SELECTING
METHOD FOR NETWORK SYSTEM

U.S. Serial No.:

09/082,127

Filed:

May 20, 1998

Group Art Unit:

2731

Examiner:

2731

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

August 18, 1998

Date of Deposit

James W. Williams

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or
Registered Representative

James W. Williams

Signature

August 18, 1998

Date of Signature

Assistant Commissioner for
Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant wishes to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of each item is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the items listed below are properly citable against the above-identified application.

The following documents are cited in the specification of the above-identified patent application:

- (1) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application (A) Hei 5-108283, (Ricoh Co Ltd) published April 30, 1993
- (2) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application (A) Hei 7-210345, (Hitachi Ltd) published August 11, 1995

Applicant wishes to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner:


- (3) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application (A) Hei 6-59833, (Ricoh Co Ltd) published March 4, 1994
- (4) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application (A) Hei 7-200203, (Fiji Xerox Co Ltd) published August 4, 1995
- (5) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application (A) Hei 7-261955, (Mita Ind Co Ltd) published October 13, 1995
- (6) IBM Corp., "NetCube for NetFinity", Windows 95, Windows NT Edition, Version 1.2, 1997, pages 31-34.

Applicant considers the invention to be distinguishable over the above-cited documents.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the issuance of the first Examiner's Action, no fee is incurred. However, if it should be

determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,



James W. Williams
Registration No. 20,047
Attorney for Applicant

JWW/11b

SIDLEY & AUSTIN
717 N. Harwood
Suite 3400
Dallas, Texas 75201-6507
(214) 981-3328 (direct)
(214) 981-3300 (main)
August 18, 1998